

House Bill 1294

By: Representatives Ralston of the 7<sup>th</sup> and Willard of the 49<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 38-3-61 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 declaration of a judicial emergency, so as to extend the duration of a judicial emergency  
3 order when a public health emergency exists; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 38-3-61 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to declaration of  
8 a judicial emergency, is amended by revising subsection (b) as follows:

9 "(b) An order declaring the existence of a judicial emergency shall be limited to an initial  
10 duration of not more than 30 days; provided, however, that the order may be modified or  
11 extended for no more than two periods not exceeding 30 days each unless a public health  
12 emergency exists, in which case the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia may  
13 extend such order for as long as the public health emergency exists. Any modification or  
14 extension of the initial order shall require information regarding the same matters set forth  
15 in subsection (a) of this Code section for the issuance of the initial order."

16 **SECTION 2.**

17 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.